



SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
Washington, DC 20423

EO-1056

Office of Economics, Environmental Analysis and Administration

August 20, 2007

Judith Bittner
State Historic Preservation Officer
Alaska Office of History and Archaeology
550 West 7th Ave., Suite 1310
Anchorage, Alaska 99501-3565

Re: STB Finance Docket No. 34658, The Alaska Railroad Corporation – Petition for Exemption to Construct and Operate a Rail Line Between North Pole and Delta Junction, Alaska

Dear Ms. Bittner:

Please find enclosed the 2006 cultural resources survey and evaluation for the above-referenced project for your review pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (16 U.S.C § 470f). This report was prepared for the Board's Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA) by our third-party contracting team including ICF International and Northern Land Use Research, Inc. (NLUR). The *Results of the 2006 Cultural Resource Survey of Proposed Alaska Railroad Northern Rail Extension Routes and Ancillary Facilities, Alaska*, in 2 volumes, includes all cultural resource survey results, site forms, and determination of eligibility recommendations for the above undertaking for 2006. This report meets the stipulations under State of Alaska Field Archaeology Permit 2006-08 (as well as BLM Fieldwork Authorization/USDOI Cultural Resource Use Permit AA86535).

Please note that the enclosed report does not include the results from the 2007 cultural resources investigation. The 2007 field work was recently completed and a separate report is currently being prepared and will be provided to you as soon as it's available.

If you have any questions about the project please do not hesitate to contact Dave Navecky, SEA Project Manager, at (202) 245-0294 or Alan Summerville, ICF Project Manager, at (703) 934-3616. Specific technical questions may be directed to our cultural resources third-party subcontractor (NLUR), Peter Bowers or Dr. Ben Potter at (907) 474-9684.

Sincerely,

Victoria Rutson
Chief
Section of Environmental Analysis

Enclosure

cc: Bob King, BLM